

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SAM-01 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 SAJ-01

AGR-05 TAR-01 HEW-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AF-06 L-03 H-02 FEAЕ-00 OES-03

COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 DOTE-00

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R 301437Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5466

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, PO

SUBJECT: GASOLINE PRICES RAISED

REF: LISBON 7585

1. LONG-ANTICIPATED RISE IN GASOLINE PRICES WAS QUIETLY PUT
INTO EFFECT DECEMBER 30. ACTION WAS NOT FORMALLY ANNOUNCED BY
GOVERNMENT, BUT "CONFIRMED" TO PRESS BY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF
FUELS. SUPER GASOLINE WAS RAISED TO (AT 25.5 ESCUDOS TO DOLLAR)
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\$2.59/GALLON, REGULAR TO \$2.23. NEW PRICES REPRESENT 36-40

PERCENT INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS PRICES, AND 133-150 PERCENT RISE
OVER 1973 PRICES. GASOLINE PRICES NOW PROBABLY HIGHEST IN
EUROPE, WHILE PRICE OF DIESEL FUEL APPARENTLY REMAINS UNCHANGED
AT 60 CENTS A GALLON, ONE OF LOWEST IN EUROPE.

2. LONG LINES OF CARS STARTED FORMING AT GAS STATIONS IN
MID-AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 29 TO TANK UP BEFORE PRICES CHANGED,
AND SUPPLIES WERE EXHAUSTED AT MANY STATIONS. RAISES ALSO
ANTICIPATED FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT AND TAXIS, AND LPG FUELS.

3. COMMENT: GASOLINE PRICE RISES ARE ANOTHER STEP IN
GOVERNMENT'S PROGRESSIVE AUSTERITY PROGRAM. GOP CONTINUES TO
MOVE CAREFULLY AND ENACT RESTRICTIVE MEASURES IN VERY LOW KEY
FASHION, TO MINIMIZE OPPOSITION. THESE PRICE INCREASES, ALONG WITH
MANY OTHERS IN THE WORKS, WILL MEAN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED
INFLATION IN 1976.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 DEC 1975
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750450-0349
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: GASOLINE PRICES RAISED
TAGS: ECON, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006